

B the man actil. Indien com the plant woods intethe little clearing belone the sphool-house, stonned waistling. his hat hese jaustily on his head, threw sway some wild if were head gathered on blone w. an others is to a revers demand of his

twenty. Not that he usually felt this an twenty. Not that he beingly felt this and a whiteper, assumption; it was a firm conviction of a Spirat up, Johany," said the master his serious nature that be impressed ancouragingly.

others, as he did himself, with the blended Please, sir, it alu't anythin' he's seed experience.

profession and bis matur

The building which was assigned to him and his flock by the Board of Educa ty; "It's just his foolishness; he oughter tion of Tuclumus county, California, had be licked." Finding himself unexpectedbeen originally a church. It still here a ly on his feet, and apparently at the end faded odor of sanctity, mingled, however, with a later and alightly alcoholic than said burriedly, "Jimmy Snyder—he of its weekly occupation, under the ad- a recognized nero.

Every eye, including the master's, was its value to the round wandering eyes of subsided. his smaller pupils, allowed it to remain "Come, Jimmy," said the master, with as a pleasing example of orthography a touch of peremptorisess. Thus adhilarity.

trusion showed the value of that precaution and the fact that the room had been
siready used for various private and peaceful gatherings of animated nature. An irstriking hears as large as a herse with a
satchel, tossing it over her shoulder with
a certain small coquettishness and moved
towards the door. As she did no
the ful gatherings of animated nature. An irstriking hears as large as a herse with a
sale value of the porch where

marrow also of benedes, replating the forgotten arithmetic, and picking up from the derivation and there certain fragmentary pieces of plaster and crumbling wood that Ind falles from the celling, as if this grove of Accelemus had been shedding its littles evenight When he reached his own deak he litted the lid and remain d for a me mements motionless, gazing into it. His apparent meditalion, however, was in ply the cem-bined reflection of his near features in a small pocket mirror to its recessed and a perplexing doubt in his mind whether the sacrifice of his budding mustache was not errential to the professional austerity of his countenance. But he was presently aware of the sound of small voices, light cries and brief laughter scattered at vague and remote distances from the schoolhouse -- not unlike the birds and squirrels be had just dispossessed. He recognized by these signs that it was 9 o'clock and his scholars were assembling.

They came in their usual desultery fashion-the fashion of country school effects of this association on the discichildren the world over-irregularly, spasmodically, and always as if accidents ally; a few hand-in-hand, others driven shead of or drepped behind their return of the sounglady was consequently eldere: some in stragging groups more or a matter of some significance. Had the less coherent and at times only connected master's protest been accepted, or had ease, as he dusted his leg with his nat echlevements. by far off intermediate veices scattered the engagement itself been broken off? on a space of half a mile, but never quite Either was not improbable. His momentsione; always preceenpied by something any loss of attention was Johnny Filgor's else than the edital business on hand; appearing suddenly from dicher, behind trunks, and between ferge rails; cropping up in unexpected piaces along the plug up in unexpected piaces along the pupths—mothly saller."

Any loss of natural and use of such as man kin, so to speak, run back on his eddication and thirk of all he ever knowed. Ye, re jist in such a manner that he was obliged to like me, and ye see I sorter spotted your withdraw his own from his pocket to like me, and ye see I sorter spotted your withdraw his own from his pocket to grass it in require. "You're very welling the land to his companion in such a manner that he was obliged to like me, and ye see I sorter spotted your withdraw his own from his pocket to grass it in the land to his companion to the companion of the land to his companion to the companion of the land to his companion to the land to his comp everywhere but to school! So un- the family of Johnny's yellow and dis-looked for, in fact, was their dual reputable setter "Tiger," who usually acarrival that the master who had a few moments before failed to descry a single torn straw hat or rushed cub bonnet above his visible horaton, was always startled to find them suddenly under his windows, as if, like the bird, they had like the bird they had like the alighted from the trees. Nor was their sighs, corrugations of small foreheads, moral attitude towards their duty any the complaining cries and scratchings of the very threshold. Even after they ment or explanation here and there, step seated himself on the raised platform were marshalled on their usual benches pirg with his hands behind him to gaze ceside the master's chair, having previioke in this tremendous rencontre-

expressing what had scoretly the vectoral and unclouded sun. A gentle interested them, any event that had persplation broke out like a wild epicocurred within their knowledge demic in the intant class; little curls since they last met. He had broame damp, brief laster limp, done this, partly to give them time to round eyes moist, and small eye recover themselves in that more formal lide honey. The master himself started, vity, it greatly amused him. It also verely. For the irresolute, half embardiverted them from their usual round- rassed, half lazy figure of a man had same of Jones' stronomy and algebry? eyed, breathless contemplation of him-belf-a regular morning inspection which open door. Luckly the children, who new style here," he continued with dress and appearance, and made every change or deviation the subject of whispered comment or stony astonishment. The master at once recognical avoiding the master's eye. "For a many experiment of the entrance, did not see it.

Yet the figure was reither alarming nor ez wos brought up on Parsings, Dobell unfamiliar. The master at once recognized and Jones that don't appear to be much

from the intuitive, vision of these sma

olaliv syents. "Well?" said the master gravely. There was the ganal laterval of bashful hypocritical sawrtion. For the last six s this quartion by the master had been is variety received each morning as seeled plussentry which might lead to haleful information or concessome query out of the dreadful books before him. Yet ils very clement of danger had its fascinations. Johnny Filgee, a small boy, blushed violently, and, without getting up, bagan berriedly in a high key, "Time

austerity and cenul of deep and exhausted --nor any rest news," said Repert Filsee, his elder brother, rising with family concern and frowning openly upon Johns breath of political discussion, the result seed suthin'. Ask him!" and sat down-

thority of the board as a tribune for the enunciation of party principles and diversion to the liberties of the people. There to be tester's desk, and the black board but imperfectly hid an impassioned appeal to the citizens of Indian Spring to appeal to the citizens of Indian Spring to "Rally" for Stebbins as Supervisor. The master had been etrock with the size of the black type in which this placerd was printed, and with a shrawd perception of in a high key, "Tige it'h got thix," and

Unfortunately, although subdivided and jured, Jimmy Snyder came up glowing y. spelt by them in its separate letters with and bristling with full stops and exclapainful and perfect accuracy, it was col-lectively known as "Welty," and its in outer Daves' woods," he said (xgeneral import productive of vague citedly. "Nigh to me ex you be. "N big cz a hose; 'n scarila'! 'n enappin'!-like Taking a large key from his pocket the goal! Kem alorg-ker-clump torords maeter unlocked the door and threw it me. Reckon-d he'd excer me! Didn't open, stepping back with a certain pre- skeer me worth a cent. I heaved a rock of her own sex could be better trusted really were a child epsin " caution begotten of his experience in at him-I did now! (in defiance of mur-once finding a small but notable rather murs of decisive comment) - 'n he slid spake couled up near the threshold. A let he'd sem up furder I'd hev up with slight disturbance which followed his in- my slate and swotted him ever the snoot

a personal recognition of her presence before and spoke. Succeeding in catchs ing his eye, the threw back her long noir from her shoulders with an easy habitual

"Cressy McKinstry came home from Secreta into Mrs. McKinstry told mother sha's comin' back here to school."

The master looked up with an alscrity erhaps inconsistent with his cynical and they. Seeing the young girl carl-custy watching him with an expectant smile, he regretted it. Crossy McK'n- putting them down sgain softly as it he stry, who was sixteen sears old, had been me of the pupils he had found at the had also found that she was there in the and d flouit. R aching the master's deak extraordinary stitlinds of being "enextraordinary stiting of being "engeged", to one Seth Davis, a fellow pupil
of nineteen, and as most of the courtship
was carried on freely and ancere,
moviously during achool bears
with the full parmission of the
master's predecessor, the master had
been obliged to point out to the parents
of the devoted couple the embarrassing
of the devoted couple the embarrassing
of the devoted couple the embarrassed than ever. The pline of the school. The result had been the withdrawel of the lovers, and possioly the good will of the parents. The tion

and withheld announcement of an increase in ways to onet."

the more varied; they always arrived as state pencils over states, and other signs If tired and reluctant, with a doubting of mintranguish smore the more youthsulkiness that perhaps afterwards beamed jul of the fibes; and with more or less into a charming hypocrisy, but in- whisperings, movements of the lips, and variably tempor z'ng with their instincts unconscious soliloquy among the older one or two beaches and a desk with his until the last mement, and only pupils. The master moved slowly up and relinquishing possible, trustey on down the alse with a word of encouragethey gazed at each other every morning shetractedly out of the windows to the ously dusted it with the flap of his hat. with a perfectly fresh estenishment and a wondering envy of the little ones. A daily recurring enjoyment of some hidden faint hum, as of invisible insects, gradnally pervaded the school; the more It had been the habitrof the master to sistent droning of a large bee had beutilize these preliminary vagrancies of come dangerously acportific. The hot his little flock by inviting them on assem- breath of the pines without had invaded bling to recount any interesting incident the doors and windows; the warped of their journey hither; or fallow this, shingles and weather-boarding at times from their not infrequent shyness in created and suspeed under the rays of

atmosphere, and partly, I fear, because, and awoze out of a perilous dream of notwithstanding his conscientious gra- other eyes and hair to collect himself re- plexed face with a faint smile. embraced every detail of his were facing the master with their backs affected carelessness, but studiously

He knew that they knew him more thor- nized it as Ben Dabuey, otherwise known show nowadays." cughly than he did himself, and shrank as "Uncle Ben," a good hu- The master did

Isdian Spring. His avencular will. We could spring the spring of the spr Indian Sprieg. His avenced it is to relieve his companion, who with his cycleutly only an ironical tribute to his cycs still turned towards the window dop! And don't you," to Octovia Dean, amisble incompetency and heavy good went on.

the go," and then suddenly subsided into inconsistent with his ghostly mission, or whather his heart failed him at the last moment, the master could not determine. Yet, distasteful as the impending Inter-

vaguely and irritatingly disappointed.
A few hours later when school was being dismissed, the master found Octavia Dean lingering near his desk. Locking into the girl's mischievous eyes, he goodcompredly answered their expectation by referring to her morning's news. "I thought Miss McKinstry had been married by this time," he said carelessly. Octavia swinging her estebel like a

up from the corner of her lashes. "Indeed!"

'No-she was just funning with Seth Davis-that's sli." "Funning with him?"

"Yes, sir. Kinder foolin' him, you know."

than his imperfect theories. He turned towards his desk wi hout speaking. Octavia gave an extra swing to her

were again stealthily taking possession of original but this time human, and the mester looked ap argrily to beheld Uncle Ben.

He entered with a slow, exasperating step, lifting his large boots very high and a week." were afraid of some insecurity in the fluor, or figuratively recognized the fact that same kird of game to me an' Roop,' the pathways of knowledge were inorny said master made no attempt to relieve him. but regarded him with cold interrega-

"I reckoned," he began, lesning one with the other, "I reckoned-that is-I sllowed-I or'er sav-that I'd find ye zione at this time. Ye gin'rally are,

manded the master sharply. "That's so, I sorter slipped up that, to come in then, but on'y to hang 'round to me."

"Used to what?" said the master, impatiently, elbelt with a slight softening at his intruder's penitent expression.

Uncle Ben did not reply immediately, but looked round as if for a seat, tried large hand as if testing their security and figally abandoning the idea as dangerous. Finding, however, that the attitude was not conducive to explanation, he presently rose again and picking up one of the school books from the master's desi eyed it unskillfully upside down, and then

said hesitatingly: "I recken ve ain't usin' Dobell's 'Rith-

metics here?"

"No," said the master. "That's bad. "Pears to be played out -that Dobell feller. I was brought up on Dobell. And Parsing's Grammar? Ye don't reem to be a using Parsing's

Grammar either?" "No," said the master, relenting still more as he glanced at Uncle Ben's per-

"And I reckon you'ld be saving the The master did not reply. Observing

who occupied a small cabin on an on Uncle Ben's face he bent his own by disparsging comments upon his worunambitious claim in the outskirts of gravely over his books. The act spheared shippers.

the side windows. The infant class bailing his appearance as a heaven sent too had suddenly his decreased the door and command his sterral broad from the master's hard without the mounted the uppermost rail, and drawing a keife from his length, tursed it ever and then rein the rail, and drawing a keife from his length, tursed it ever and then rein the rail, and drawing a keife from the rail, and drawing a keife from his length, tursed it ever and then rein the rail, and drawing a keife from his length, tursed it ever and then rein the rail, and drawing a keife from his limit to fill, tursed it ever and then rein the rail, and drawing a keife from his length, tursed it ever and then rein the rail, and drawing a keife from his length, tursed it ever and then rein the rail, and began to whittle it is patient and modificity as islence. But when the more extracted that would hardly all there." Nevertheless he saw the interior around that the more extracted that would hardly do," the more extracted that would hardly do," the more extracted that would hardly do," the master call the more extracted in the more ex

and the old quill pen that I see you're act quick stop and of slighting birds, and a customed to, and start in fresh as if you'd like the sound of slighting birds, and a customed to, and start in fresh as if you'd like the sound of slighting birds, and a customed to, and start in fresh as if you'd like the sound of slighting birds, and a customed to, and start in fresh as if you'd like the sound of slighting birds, and a customed to, and start in fresh as if you'd like the sound of slighting birds, and a customed to, and start in fresh as if you'd like the sound of slighting birds, and a customed to, and start in fresh as if you'd like the sound of slighting birds, and a customed to, and start in fresh as if you'd like the sound of slighting birds, and a customed to, and start in fresh as if you'd like the sound of slighting birds, and a customed to, and start in fresh as if you'd like the sound of slighting birds, and a customed to, and start in fresh as if you'd like the sound of slighting birds, and a customed to, and start in fresh as if you'd like the sound of slighting birds, and a customed to custo

corclade that her instinctive knowledge soily like one of those-in fact, as if you no resemblance to a pupil; in her pretty

her own. A squirrel boldly came ecross contributed blunt, horset temper had rate appearance. The situation was emthe porch, a few twittering birds charging always attracted him. He was a fair barraneing. He could not decline to reir, stopped, beat the air healtstirgly for scholar, with a possibility of betog a ceive her as she was to lorger accomthere was another movement of intrusion, goodhumorediy. "But coulde't you do for own house? I might lead you the accept such explanation as she migh

> idea o' the shool house, we know, and the she said lazily, pointing to the books age restfulrees and the quiet, and ren'ral air had brought with ner.

parion seemed to be struggling with an inarticulate gratitude and apparently inextricable buck-kin purse in his pocket he added quietly, "I'll set you a few copies to commence with," and began to for Crassy McKinstry had never been a hand on the master's desk with affected Master Johnny Filgee's scholastic

> "After thacking you, Mr. Ford," said Uncle Ben faintly, "ef you'll jest kinder certain deflance in it, as it she had reye signify, you know, what you consider a selved to estop any objection to her re-

"Then why did you come here this come," said the master, "and as I can morning and disturb the school?" de- only permit this sort of thing gratuitonely, you'd better not let me know that you propose giving anything even to didn't I?" said Uccle Ben with a smile of Rupers." He shook Uncle Ben's perrueful assent. "You see I didn't silow plexed hand again, briefly explained what he had to do, and saying that he would a leetle and kinder get used to it, and it now leave him sione a few minutes, he took his hat and walked towards the door

"Then you recken," said Uncle Ben slowly, regarding the work before him, "that I'd just better chuck them Dobell fellers overboard ?" "I certainly should," responded the

master with inflatte gravity. "And sorter wal'z in fresh like one 'o them children ?"

"Like a child," nodded the master se he left the porch. A few moments later se he was fluishing his eight in the clearing he paused to pleace in at the schoolroom window. Uccle Bee, stripped of his coat and walstcost, with his spirt sleeves rolled up on his powerful arms, had evidently cast Dabell and all misleading extraneous aid

out on his foolish forehead, and his per-

plexed face close to the master's desk was

psinfully groping along towards the light

Master Johnnie Filgee, like a very child.

tottering and devious tracks of

indeco: CHAPTER II. to their places the next morning the master waited for an opportunity to speak to Rupert. That beautiful but scarcely amiable youth, was as usual, surscarcely smiable youth, was as usual, surrounded and impeded by a group of his

drawn near Cressy and reached up to
unprecedented.

A light breeze small female admirers, for whom, it is but just to add, he had a supreme contempt. Possibly it was this healthy quality that

was consequently with some satisfaction *Two bits, i. c. twenty five cents.

inclined the master towards him, and it

and observe the birds also.

"The're mighty boid—them jays," his progenitor that he had previously said U cle Bee, laying down the pon with shown to his younger brother. "You strappi us exactitude beside the book needs' mind alm." In reality Fages and gazing at his fingers as if he had pere, a widower of two year's standing schieved a miracle of delicate manipulaconstrued a miracle of delicate manipulation. "They don't seem to be afeared of nothing, do the; ?"

In thing, do the; ?"

There was another pause. The muster could only say: "Very well," and good naturedly dismiss the master could only say: "Very well," and good naturedly dismiss the pupil to his seat and the subject from the mindow. "I the pupil to his seat and the subject from his mind. The last isgand had just prompt decision and unshaken gravity, prompt decision and unshaken gravity, the only thing for you to do is to just throw over Debell and Parsons and Jones and the old quill pen that I see you're accounted to and the old quill pen that I see you're accounted to any say: and the subject from the playground demurely walking the nature was a quick step on the gravel, a fatter of skirts waist in an ostentation configure at the process of the force of slipped through the rain and the fatter of skirts waist in an ostentation configure at once lofty, exclusive and exapperating to the force of slipped through the rain and the fatter of skirts waist in an ostentation configure at once lofty, exclusive and exapperating to the force of slipped through the fatter of the specific to the door, opened it, she was fatter of the door, opened it, she was

the window, "but you must do it" and the forward droop of her slander show Rupert Filg e now to prepare Unitermine. He kept steadly along the He turned back, the brightness that neck, she appeared a girl of differer; in the Ben's tasks, and had given bis final trail that followed the line of fence to the "Kinder foolin' him!"
For an instant the master felt it his moment brought a slight moisture into moment of the matrimonial ergagement, but a second glance at the matrimonial ergagement, but a second glance at the significant face of his youthful auditor made him face of his youthful vice-gerent, the feveloped figure and the materor of the particles to his youthful vice-gerent, the feveloped figure and the materor of his youthful vice-gerent, the feveloped figure and the materor of the particles and had given bls flast that followed the line of fence to the served to his youthful vice-gerent, the feveloped figure and the materor of reveloped figure and the materor of revelo towards the door. As she did no the sale vantage of the perch where he had lingered was enddenly impelled to a crowning audacity! As if street with a company to the sale vantage of the perch where he had lingered was enddenly impelled to a crowning audacity! As if street with a company to the sale vantage of the perch where he had lingered was enddenly impelled to a crowning audacity! As if street with the sale vantage of the perchasing the sale was a fashion plate would have been talking the sale of the sale vantage of the perchasing the sale was a fashion plate would have been talking the sale of the sale was a fashion plate would have been talking the sale of the sale was a fashion plate would have been talking the sale of the sale was a fashion plate would have been talking the sale of the sale was a fashion plate would have been talking the sale of the sale was a fashion plate would have been talking the sale of the sale was a fashion plate would have been talking the sale of the sale was a fashion plate would have been talking the sale of the sale was a fashion plate would have a sale was a fashion plate would be a sale was a fashion plate would have a sale was a fashion plate which have a sale was a fashion plate which have a sale was a fashion plate was

youthful coldiy, and affected to ignore her ciabo- chuckle interference he knew Indian Spring a this more securely and essity in your would scarcely tolerate. He could only return! books, you know, and come to you twice choose to give. He racg his bell as Usele Ben's radiant face suddenly collegen as to bring the scene to schear. to call up clouded. "It wouldn't be exactly the Soe had removed her gloves and was Kinstry.

hesitationly. "You-see that's the | III reckon I can go on where I left off?"

coolly as if she had only left school the day before. Her studies were still quite elementary, brilliant scholar, but he preceived with a cypical doubt of its permanency, that she had bestowed unusal care upon her pres-ent performance "There was, moreover, a turn on the score or deficiencies. He was obliged, in self defence to take particular note of some rings she wore, and a large bracelet that ostentationally glittered on her white srm-which had already attracted the attention of her companions, and prempted the audible comment from Johnny Filges that it was "truly gold" Without meeting hereyes he contented himself with severely restraining the glances of the children that wandered in her direction. She had never been quite popular with the school in her previous role of flance, and only Octavia Deen and one or two older girls appreciated its mysterious fascination, while the beautiful Rupert, secure in his avowed predilection for the which now had all the absurdity of engines of earlier gold seekers. of his school.

waist, glanced at her with a patronizing and laughingly retired with the others. The master at his desk and Cressy who

ished forever.

the other and lingered an instant. "Been quite well?" she asked with indolerat puritosces.

"Yes-thank you"

and to your duty and try to make Uncle seen bor flutter back to it again. sture, ruse, and with a faint accession with basifully protesting breasts seism with United Ber would not interfere with cultre ignorance of ner broken engage twish, projection, or," he Ben see you're something more than a egainst the open door and the unlocked the discipline of school hours and might ment; while to point out the girring in added supertrainer, the and i may both tor, here yawned, rose from the sunfor epoctacle of the shent occupant. Then help them both. Nevertheless he asked appropriateness of contains would be a repent our agreement. Let me have light where he had been blinking, ap-

> much to avert the directed sees of the formed resolution left the schoolroom fully conscious that his hypocritical He was not quite certain At the could resign a situation that now appeared to require more tact and imself that he had lately suspected that center a realization of his daily dreams. For Mr. Jack Ford was a youthful pligr in at which the figure of a woman, pre-Her who had sought his fortune in California ceded hastily by a thrown disheloto, had That prospective fortune had already eleded him in San Francisco, had apparently not waited for him in Sacramento, I disu Spring. Nevertheless, when he old pugilistic suggestion in her stillinde. he lit a cigar, but his hands in his pockets covery of the master by her retreating and strode on with the cheerfulness of backwards with her hands up and her elthat youth to which all things are possi- bows still well forward as if

> The children had siready dispersed as mysteriously and completely as they had from the doorway. "I beg your pardon," arrived. Between him and the straggling he said, deficately addressing the oppobamlet of Indian Spring the landscape seemed to be without sound or motion. I followed the dog." The wooded upland or ridge on which the school-house stood, half a mile further on began to slope gradually to. fully from within. "Only last week he wards the river, on whose banks seen let in a Chinaman, and in the nat'ral from that distance, the town appeared to heatlin' that follered he managed to help bave been scattered irregularly or thrown | himself outer the pork bar'l. There sin't together hastliy, as if cast asnore by some no shade o' cuasedness that or nary overflow—the Cosmopolitan hotel drifting hound ain't up to." Yet notwithinto the Baptist church and dragging in standing this middle aged wife of the proprietor of the its tall of wrackage two saloons and a son Indian Spring hotel, looked upon her as a blacksmith's shop; while the county appearance with her sleeves turned down. | courthouse was stranded in solitary ber black woolen dress "lidled," and a precocious chit with more than usual pro-pensity to objectionable "oreathing." grandour in a waste of gravel half a mile of fatigued but not unkindly wel-Nevertheless the master was irritatingly away. The intervening fist was still come and protection on her face. Dust conscious of her presence-a presence gashed and furrowed by the remorseless ling a chair with her apron and placing it

her ridiculous love experiences super-added to it. He tried to reason with this unsuccessful record of frontier enhimself that it was only a phase of fron- deavour-he fortuse he had sought did My men folks are all out o' door, but tier life, which ought to have amused not seem to lie in that direction-and his him. But it did not. The intrusion of eye glanced quickly beyond it to the pinethis preposterous girl seemed to disar crested hills across the river, whose range the discipline of his lite he well as primeva-security was so near and yet so The usual vegue, far-off laviolable, or back sgain to the trail he or that." aside, and with the perspiration standing dreams in which he was in the habit of was pursuing along the ridge. The latter indulging during school hours, dreams prospect still retained its semi-savage that were perhaps superinduced by the character in spite of the occasional remoteness of his retreat and a certain suburban cottages of residents, and res ful sympathy in his little auditors, the few outlying farms or ranches which had made him-the grown up of the locality. The grounds of the dreamer—acceptable to them in his gen cottages were yet uncleared of under. the understanding of their needs and brush; bear and catamount still prowned As the children were slowly straggling weaknesses-now seemed to have van- around the rude fences of the ranches; the late sileged experience of the infant At recess, Octavia Dean, who had Filgee was by no means improbable or

> A light breeze was seeking the heated fist and river, and thrilling the leaves smile born of some rapid free-masorry, around him with the strong vitality of the forest. The vibrating cross lights and tremulous chequers of shade cast by the had halted in the sisle, were left alone. stirred foliage seemed to weave a fantas"I have had no intimation yet from the net around him as he walked. The stirred foliage seemed to weave a fantasyour father and mother that you were quaint odors of certain woodland herbs

mored but not over bright miner, several shades of color chase each other that he overheard fragments of his open- coming back to school again," he began known to his scholars, and religiously kept An uneasy suspicion of some arrange- called all the primitive simplicity and de-

me and something of essentially seelash import to communicate Catching the apparition's haif-appealing eye, he proceeded to exorcise it with a portentious frown and shake of the head, that caused it to timidly wane and fall away from the porteh, only, however, to reappear and max larger a few minutes later at one of head of the self-out of the self

praction stood out upon his amouth, wid?"

Repert's cost destroed. "Sost to writing for instance," continued the master with increasing heartificial and an analysis of the master with increasing heartificial and an analysis of the master with increasing heartificial and an analysis of the master with increasing heartificial and an analysis of the master with increasing heartificial and an analysis of the master with increasing heartificial and an analysis of the master with increasing heartificial and an analysis of the master with increasing heartificial and an analysis of the master with increasing heartificial and an analysis of the master with increasing heartificial and an analysis of the master with increasing heartificial and an analysis of the master with the master with increasing heartificial and an analysis of the master with the master with increasing heartificial and an analysis of the master with the master with increasing heartification and an analysis of the master with the master with increasing heartification and an analysis of the master with the master with increasing heartification and an analysis of the master with the master with increasing heartification and an analysis of the master with the master with increasing heartification and the master with the master with increasing heartification and the master with the master with increasing heartification and the master with the master with increasing heartification and the master with the ma "We will strend to that," said the masses with increasing hearth to a sixting posture on the desk, shead of him. She was not alone, but er such increasing hearth to a sixting posture on the desk, shead of him. She was not alone, but er such increasing hearth to a sixting posture on the desk, shead of him. She was not alone, but er such increasing hearth to a sixting posture on the desk, shead of him. She was not alone, but er such increasing hearth to a sixting posture on the desk, shead of him. She was not alone, but er such increasing hearth to a sixting posture on the desk, shead of him. She was not alone, but er such increasing hearth to a sixting posture on the desk, shead of him. She was not alone, but extend to that her little feet swung clear of the floor is that her little feet swung clear of the floo figure of her companion at that distance, he could see that it was not her former

betrothed, Seth Davie. never known them. Forget 'em all, you know. It will be mightly hard, of course, to do that," he continued, looking out of the course of the co

the lazy ungainliness of southwestern scily like one of those—in fact, as if you result in her pretty really were a child egain."

"That's so," said Uncle Ben, rubbing his hands delightediv, "that's me! Way, that's jest what I was sayin' to Roop—" Then you've already been talking been in the dry and degrated pages been dealth been and the pages and descended on his make-chitts of boards. The degrated of the degrated on his growness in heavy discontent. "It's make-chitts of boards, of long, or degrated on his make-chitts of boards, of long, or degrated on his make-chitts of boards, of long, or degrated on his make-chitts of boards, of long, or degrated on his make-chitts of boards, of long, or degrated on his make-chitts of boards, of long, or degrated on his make-chitts of board to a fire in a milliner's shop."

insaic and tentative disposition of its "You shouldn's allow your personal founder. It had been repaired without The master here is anothe free thought to interfere silreng sold forwarded private only private and greatly daint out that in labil of statisfing bears as large as a lideous chrysalis the bright butterfly "Tost will do," said the master per- Grossy and emerged. It was with a re-emptority. "For the present you'll at- newel of this curiosity that he had just

> A yellow dog who had observed him hesitating in doubt where he should engood account of you both when I proached the master with languid politeness, and then turned towards the He took his bat from its peg on the from building as if showing him the way. wall, and in obedience to a suddenly Mr. For I followed him cautiously, painto call upon the parents of Creesy Mo. capine introducer was only availing himsolf of an opportunity of galoing ingress what he should say, but, after his leto the house, and was leading him as a habit, would trust to the inspiration of responsible accomplice to probable exworst he posure and disgrece. His expectations were quickly realized. A lazy, queratous feminine outcry, with the words, "Yer's delicacy than seemed consistent with his that derived hound agin," cause from an position, and he was colleged to confess to adjacent room, and his exposed and abashed companion swiftly his present occupation—the temporary past him into the road again. Mr. Ford expedient of a poor but clever young man found himself alone in a plainly fur-of twenty—was scarcely bringing him wished sitting room confronting the open door leading to another spartment so lightly equipped that even in the mat. just appeared. It was Mrs McKinstry; ter of hin and advisers he was deficient | her sleaves were rolled up over her red but still shapely arms, and as she stood there wiping them on her aprop, with her elbows advanced, and her closed hands and now seemed never to have been at raised alternately in the air, there was an was once out of sight of the schoolhouse It was not lessened on her smoden dis-

ti log to an imaginary "corner." Mr. Ford at once tactfully stepped back site wall, "but I found the door open and

"That's just one of his pizenous tricks," responded Mrs. McKins.ry doleominous presently made site before the master, she continued maternally: "Now that you're here, set ye right down and make yourself at home. some of em's sure to happen in soon for suthin'; that day sin't yet created that they don't come huntin' up Mamme Mo-Kinstry every five minutes for this thing

The glow of a certain hard pride burned through the careworn languor of her brown cheek. What she had said was strangely true. This raw-boned woman before him, although scarcely middleaged had for years occupied a self-imposed maternal and protecting relation, not only to her husband and brothers, but to the three or four men, who as partners or hired hands, lived at the ranch. Au inherited and trained sympathy with what she called her "boys" and her "men folk," and their needs had partly unsexed her. She was a fair type of a class not uncommon on the southwestern frontier; women who were ruder helpmeets of their rude husbands and brothers, who had shared their and sufferings privations

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